



MCDOT NEWS

News from the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Services

Observation Drive to be Resurfaced

Prep. Work has begun; Resurfacing to begin May 27, 2010

INTRODUCTION

This newsletter is to inform you of the upcoming resurfacing of Observation Drive, from Germantown Road (MD 118) to Ridge Road (MD 27), and to describe the process. This system preservation project employs long term strategies to preserve and enhance the physical and operating conditions of the roadway system as it exists and will make the system serviceable for many years.

BACKGROUND

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (DOT) Division of Highway Services (DHS) maintains over 5,085 lane miles of streets and highways using various methods of routine maintenance, pavement restoration and repaving depending on the level of pavement deterioration present. Most notably, crack seals, asphalt patching, Micro Pave, and hot mix asphalt overlays are chief among pavement restoration options.

In 2008, DOT initiated a new Pavement Management System, which included an inspection and complete inventory of all County roads, identifying and rating the condition of each.

DOT is now developing County-wide maintenance schedules based on both this objective rating system and budgetary parameters.

Initially, DOT will address surface distresses (i.e. cracks, spalls) using crack seals and patching, as appropriate preparations for either resurfacing with slurry seal or Micro Pave, or repaving with hot mix asphalt.

SCOPE OF PROJECT

DOT has inspected, rated, and evaluated Observation Drive and determined that its condition warrants pavement preservation by Micro Pave resurfacing (surface coating). The Micro Pave material contains small aggregate, a liquid asphalt emulsion,

and a latex modifier. Additionally, Micro Pave enhances the existing pavement, fills cracks and small voids, and extends the life and serviceability of the pavement.

Please refer to the map on the reverse side of this newsletter to view the proposed resurfacing areas.

It should be noted that streets designated to be resurfaced with Micro Pave will be inspected and evaluated on a biannual basis and maintenance performed when warranted by pavement distress levels.

PROJECT WORK PLAN

Generally, the work will proceed as follows:

1. Conduct survey - Identify areas roadway in need of repair. You may notice paint markings that outline areas for pavement replacement, such as those shown in the picture below.



Typical patching paint markings

2. Full Depth Patching - The DOT pavement evaluation has determined that, prior to resurfacing, full depth asphalt patching of the pavement or other repairs may be necessary at selected locations. Full depth patching restores the pavement's structural integrity and capacity to support vehicle loads. This work activity may have been completed earlier this year.

3. Utility Adjustments - In most cases when using Micro Pave, sewer and storm drain manholes, water valves and gas valves, and other underground utility access covers do not require adjustment to the finished

grade of the material. However, any low utility covers may be raised to the existing level of the road surface.



Typical asphalt excavation operation

4. Crack Sealing - An additional step may be necessary to seal large cracks that may not require full depth patching. A flexible filler material is injected into the cracks and sealed with a special tool. This work activity may also have been completed earlier this year.

5. Replace lane markings - Lane markings will be remarked where they existed prior to paving shortly after the Micro Pave application.

MICRO PAVE

The final step in the resurfacing process is the application of the Micro Pave material. Generally, this step will follow the patching by several weeks. The Micro Pave overlay will cover the entire road surface. Observation Drive will receive two layers of Micro Pave. This will provide for a uniform appearance and surface texture. Again, the Micro Pave overlay will follow the patching by several weeks. A final sweeping, if needed, will remove any loose grit.

Although some cracks may reappear after about a year, the underlying crack seals prevent water from penetrating through the roadway.



Micro Pave application

SCHEDULE

DOT estimates that the bulk of the preparation work will take around 1-2 weeks to complete. Resurfacing will occur on or about May 27, 2010. Weather and operational requirements may affect the schedule.

All work will be scheduled between the hours of 7 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

IMPACTS

Continuous traffic will be maintained at all times, although alternating one-way traffic patterns may be used periodically. However, minor traffic delays may be experienced as flaggers manually direct traffic safely through the construction zone. This project will necessitate temporary lane closures. Access to homes will be available at all times, however minor delays may be experienced as workers restrict traffic from freshly applied Micro Pave. Traffic may be restricted from driving on freshly applied Micro Pave until it is fully cured, usually for 3-4 hours. Driving on freshly applied Micro Pave will damage the material and may soil your vehicle. Orange traffic cones will be placed in the restricted lane.

Street repair, preparation and resurfacing work is generally characterized by some noise and dust. However, DOT will do its best to keep the site in good housekeeping order.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we work to improve Observation Drive for residents and users.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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KEEPING MONTGOMERY MOVING

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NOTICE OF OBSERVATION DRIVE RESURFACING PROJECT

SAFETY NOTICE

Please remember that while repair work is proceeding, construction vehicles will be moving around. Some materials may be stored in the area. Please use caution when walking or driving through the construction zone. Children may be attracted to the noise and machinery, so please keep them under supervision at all times, even after the work is completed for the day. Also, please follow the direction of flaggers and temporary signs and traffic control devices. We appreciate your patience and cooperation while we make these much needed improvements to the infrastructure.

CONTACTS

The resurfacing and repair work is managed by DHS personnel. Should you wish to contact us concerning the resurfacing and repair work in your community, please contact:

Project Inspector: Martin P. Wurdeman 240-777-7649

Project Manager: Donald Noble 240-777-7601

Should your questions be of a more general nature, please contact Customer Service at 240-777-6000.

DHS Email: mcdot.highway@montgomerycountymd.gov

DHS Website:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hwytempl.asp?url=/content/dot/highway/index.asp>

On the map, click on the **Gaithersburg East Service Area**, where information is available describing the resurfacing process.

